

BLACKSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT
News Release

DATE: June 16, 2005

CONTACT: Lt. D. J. Davis, 961-1152

SUBJECT: Hate Crime Investigation

Blacksburg police are investigating an incident at a local Islamic Center as a hate crime.

Police were called to the Islamic Center in the 100 block of South Hill Drive at 2:45 pm on June 11, 2005 to investigate a complaint. Officers arrived to discover that someone had left a plastic shopping bag with several partially burned copies of the Koran beside the front entrance. The incident occurred after the last person had left the morning prayer service at approximately 5:10 am and the return of members in the early afternoon at 1:40 pm.

Police are considering all possibilities and are trying to determine what happened as they search for leads in the case.

The case is being actively investigated by members of the Blacksburg Police Criminal Investigative Unit. Anyone with any additional information about this incident may contact the Blacksburg Police Department at 540-961-1150.